

KEY BILLS I SUPPORTED DURING THE 2008 SESSION

✓ **911 SERVICES:** HEA 1204 increases 911 efficiency, saves tax dollars and helps communities invest in the latest technology. The bill consolidates 911 dispatch centers, allowing two per county by 2015.

✓ **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:** SEA 27 creates a “cooling-off period” in domestic violence cases by requiring suspects be held in custody for eight hours after the time of arrest and prohibits them from being released on bail during that time.

✓ **PRE-PAID FUNERALS:** HEA 1026 helps protect investments of Hoosiers with pre-paid funeral policies by making it a Class C felony to fraudulently disburse funds from a funeral trust account. Class C felonies are punishable by up to 8 years of imprisonment and a \$10,000 fine.

✓ **SEXUAL PREDATORS:** SEA 258 protects Hoosier children from sexual predators by prohibiting sex offenders from using social networking Internet sites accessible by children under the age of 18. In addition, GPS monitoring for sex offenders will be mandatory beginning in 2009.

✓ **TEACHER SHORTAGES:** SEA 22 addresses the shortage of teachers in areas like math and science by allowing the Indiana Department of Education to grant initial teaching licenses to qualified Hoosier professionals with post-graduate degrees and some teaching experience.

✓ **TORNADO WARNINGS:** SEA 334 requires the Indiana Department of Homeland Security to establish uniform standards for severe weather sirens and study which areas across the state need additional sirens.



FIGHTING FOR HOOSIER TAXPAYERS

STATE SENATOR DAVID LONG

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SENATE, STATE OF INDIANA
200 WEST WASHINGTON STREET
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204
800-382-9467
S16@IN.GOV

VISIT MY WEB SITE AT: WWW.IN.GOV/S16



SPRING 2008 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE SEN. DAVID LONG



ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

- Acknowledging Washington Gridlock
- Protecting Taxpayers & Human Rights
- Pursuing Fair Remedies That Pass Constitutional Legal Challenges



PROPERTY TAXES

- Cuts & Caps on Property Taxes
- Controls on Government Spending
- Constitutional Guarantees That Hoosiers Can Vote On & Decide



JOB GROWTH

- Lowest Unemployment in the Midwest
- 100,000 More Hoosiers Working Today
- 43,000 New High-Paying Jobs
- \$12 billion in new investments





SENATOR DAVID LONG

SERVING SENATE DISTRICT 16

200 W. WASHINGTON STREET • INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204 • 800-382-9841

Property Tax Relief, Reforms 'Hit Home' With Taxpayers!

*Senate Tax Plan Increases Immediate, Direct Relief to \$870 Million;
Puts Cuts, Permanent Caps, Government Spending Controls in Place*

Our Senate tax plan — increasing immediate, direct relief to \$870 million and implementing property tax cuts, permanent caps and government spending controls — is finally law! This historic tax overhaul should “hit home” with most Hoosier homeowners who are expected to see a nearly 27-percent average decrease in property taxes in 2008 and approximately 38 percent by 2010.

✓ Cuts in Property

Taxes: House Enrolled Act 1001 removes \$1 billion in school and local government costs from the backs of property taxpayers — including farmers and businesses — while maintaining local control of our schools.

✓ Caps on Property

Taxes: We phase in by 2010 a 1 percent property tax cap on owner-occupied homes, 2 percent on other residential and agricultural properties and 3 percent on businesses. Only local taxpayers — not government — can exceed these “circuit breakers.” Because schools have no other substantial revenue, our plan sets aside \$120 million to help them live within the caps and \$400 million for economic “rainy days.” The phase-in allows time for local government officials to identify and implement new efficiencies. Distressed local

governments can appeal to the state for help.

✓ **Controls on Government Spending:** All taxes result from government spending. Property taxes are determined, collected and spent at the local level. Unfortunately, statewide figures show local levies have out-

paced inflation by more than two to one. HEA 1001 requires voter referendum on major school and government construction projects. Petition-remonstrance procedures remain in effect for smaller construction projects. The bill closes loopholes used by locals to increase property taxes and provides greater scrutiny of local budgets.

✓ Constitutional

Guarantee: Historically, whenever we’ve raised other taxes to reduce property taxes, the reductions were temporary. Property taxes returned to previous levels, while other increased taxes remained. To prevent this “creep” in the future, our plan includes an amendment to Indiana’s Constitution making the 1-2-3 caps permanent. This constitutional amendment will require passage again in 2009 or 2010 by a separately elected legislature, then approval by Indiana voters.



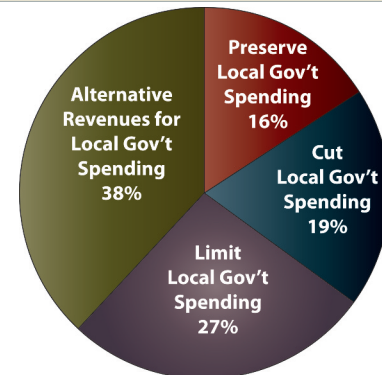
'New Day For Property Taxpayers'

Calling it a “new day for property taxpayers,” Gov. Mitch Daniels signs House Enrolled Act 1001 into law with Sen. David Long at his side. Seen by many as the most far-reaching property tax reform package in the nation, HEA 1001 cuts property taxes by \$1 billion, caps them on homes at 1 percent, controls government spending and offers a constitutional guarantee to taxpayers.

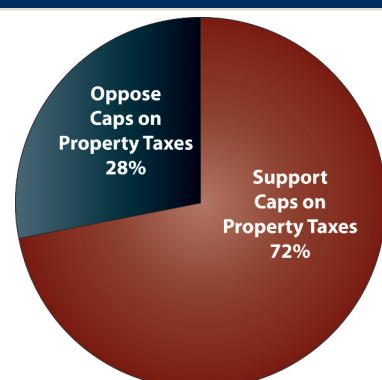
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THE PEOPLE SPOKE AND WE LISTENED!

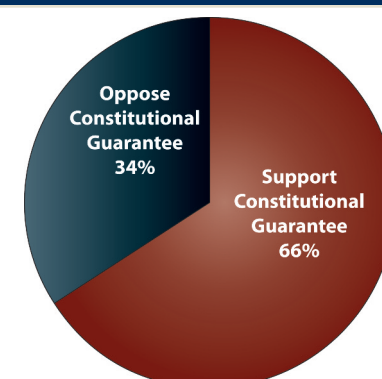
Cuts in Property Taxes



Caps on Property Taxes



Constitutional Guarantee



JOB GROWTH

Protecting and maintaining high-paying jobs for hard-working Hoosiers remains a top priority for Senate Republicans.

We continue to work with Gov. Mitch Daniels to bring new jobs to Indiana and our efforts are paying off. Indiana’s unemployment rate remains the lowest in the Midwest at 4.5 percent.

Today, 100,000 more Hoosiers are employed than in 2005. Efforts by the Indiana Economic Development Corporation (IEDC), which Daniels and lawmakers created, have helped close nearly 400 business deals that brought \$12 billion in new investments and more than 43,000 new, high-paying jobs for Hoosiers. Teamwork with Hoosier entrepreneurs will bring even more jobs to our state.

Locally, these efforts have produced 149 jobs at HSAC Acquisition Corporation, 115 jobs at Tri-Co Solutions, 68

jobs at Dreyer’s Grand Ice Cream and 55 jobs at Baekgaard LTD of Indiana.

As the “Crossroads of America,” Indiana is an ideal location to open and grow a business. Indiana has lower business costs, a highly-skilled workforce, a competitive tax structure, strong economic incentives and shovel-ready sites awaiting development. High-tech jobs are bolstered through technology parks, incubators and top-notch colleges and universities.

If you are interested in expanding or starting an Indiana business, you can reach the Business Development Division of the IEDC at 1-800-463-8081 or online at www.in.gov/iedc/

In addition, information on venture capital is available on the Ball State University Toolbox Guide to Development Funds, assessable online at www.bsu.edu/cecd/toolbox/



ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

America is a nation of immigrants, but also a nation of laws. Respect for the rule of law and assigning appropriate penalties if and when needed were catalysts for this Session’s discussions on illegal immigration.

Once seen exclusively as a federal issue, decades of Washington-beltway gridlock on illegal immigration have caused a growing number of states to search for their own solutions. Indiana this year joined ranks with dozens of states in reviewing statutes and policies in hopes of protecting taxpayers as well as human rights.

Indiana’s legislation aimed to address employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants and those who profit from harboring or transporting them. Our bill was as simple as supply and demand: If we don’t supply jobs to illegal aliens, there will be no demand for them to come here unlawfully. Critics disagreed, claiming the bill was dis-

criminatory against all immigrants — legal and illegal — and forced employers to police what some dispute are strains on public services and taxpayers.

Ultimately, differences on specific wording could not be worked out. Yet many Indiana legislators, including myself, remain committed to addressing the issue. We will not idly stand by and let our Statehouse suffer the same stalemate as our federal counterparts.

Republican state senators are calling for a continued discussion to address this important issue as it affects Indiana. We encourage an in-depth, bipartisan effort to identify fair remedies that will pass Constitutional challenges. Our hope is to separate fact from fiction, logic from emotion, and craft legislation all Hoosiers — native born and naturalized — can be proud to call our own.

